

Message Text

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14

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SAJ-01 ACDA-07 DLOS-06 SAL-01

EB-07 OES-06 OMB-01 /095 W

----- 118829

O 040921Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6611

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES

USDOCOLANDSOUTHEAST

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCUSAFE

COMSIXTHFLT

DIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 9376

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR PLOS GR TU

SUBJECT: CONTINUED REACTION TO AEGEAN EVENTS

REF: ATHENS 9365(NOTAL)

1. THE ATHENS PRESS ON SEPTEMBER 4 CONCENTRATES
ON INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITY STEMMING FROM THE LATEST
VOYAGE OF THE SISMIK I RATHER THAN THE ACTION OF THE
SHIP ITSELF.

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2. HEAVIEST PLAY WAS GIVEN TO THE PERSONAL MESSAGE

RECEIVED YESTERDAY BY PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS FROM BULGARIAN PRESIDENT TODOR ZHIVKOV. NO OFFICIAL ANNOUNCEMENT HAS BEEN MADE CONCERNING ITS CONTENTS, BUT THE CONSENSUS OF CONJECTURE IS THAT BULGARIA IS OFFERING TO MEDIATE BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY. PRO-GOVERNMENT KATHIMERINI SUGGESTS THAT BULGARIA MAY BE ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS FROM MOSCOW, BUT THE SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY REPORTS THAT THE MESSAGE WAS A SELF-MOTIVATED INITIATIVE WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF FRIENDLY RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. THE MESSAGE WAS HANDCARRIED BY BULGARIAN UNDERSECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS BORIS ZVETCOV. SOME REPORTS STATED ZVETCOV THEN LEFT FOR ANKARA IN HIS SPECIAL AIRCRAFT TO DELIVER A SIMILAR MESSAGE TO PRIME MINISTER DEMIREL.

3. SECOND IN NUMBER WERE REPORTS BASED ON AN AFP DISPATCH DATED THE UNITED NATIONS SEPTEMBER 3 STATING THAT GREECE HAS REQUESTED THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO DRAW COUNCIL MEMBERS' ATTENTION TO A NEW VIOLATION OF GREECE'S CONTINENTAL SHELF ON SEPTEMBER 2 BY THE SISMIR I, BUT THAT NO COUNCIL MEETING HAD BEEN REQUESTED. THERE WAS NO EDITORIAL COMMENT.

3. WIDE PLAY WITHOUT COMMENT WAS ALSO GIVEN TO REPORTS FROM ANKARA THAT FOREIGN MINISTERS KATSIS AND CAGLAYANGIL WILL MEET IN NEW YORK LATER THIS MONTH IN CONNECTION WITH THE OPENING OF THE UNGA AND COULD PREPARE FOR A SUMMIT MEETING BETWEEN PRIME MINISTERS CARAMANLIS AND DEMIREL. PRO-GOVERNMENT AKROPOLIS HAD COMMENTED YESTERDAY SUCH REPORTS FROM ANKARA WERE WITHOUT FOUNDATION AS THE CURRENT ATMOSPHERE STEMMING FROM THE SISMIR I'S VOYAGE PRECLUDES ANY PREPARATIONS FOR A SUMMIT CONFERENCE. KUBISCH

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04 MAY 2006

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